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Letter dated 18 July 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wirite with reference to my letter of 10 April 2002 (S/2002/393).

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached supplementary report from the United Kingdom, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Letter dated 19 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Annexed to the present letter is the further report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted in response to the letter from the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of 27 March 2002 (see enclosure).

The United Kingdom stands ready to submit any further information requested by the Counter-Terrorism Committee on the United Kingdom's implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**

Enclosure

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: second report to the Counter-Terrorism Committee pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resoslution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001*

- **Sub-paragraph 1 (c):**

  - **As requirements under this sub-paragraph refer to freezing of not merely funds and other financial assets, please could the UK make clear whether existing measures allow for the freezing of economic resources and other related services of individuals and entities connected with terrorist acts.**

The provisions of UNSCR 1373 (2001) were implemented in UK law by the Terrorism (United Nations Measures) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/3365). This provided for the freezing of "funds", defined as "financial assets and economic benefits of every kind". The Al-Qa'ida and Taliban (United Nations Measures) Order 2002 (SI 2002/111) amended the definition of "funds" in the 2001 Order to mean "financial assets, economic benefits and economic resources of any kind", thereby providing for the freezing of economic resources.

- **Sub-paragraph 1 (d):**

  - **Please clarify whether SI 2001 No. 3365 extends to persons engaged in legitimate activities inside the UK who are involved in terrorism outside the UK.**

Article 2 of SI 2001 No. 3365 defines terrorism as meaning the use or threat of action, which is designed to influence the government or intimidate the public or a section of the public, and which is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause. Such action is terrorism when it involves serious violence against a person or serious damage to property, endangers another person's life, creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public, or is designed seriously to interfere with or seriously to disrupt an electronic system. The same article goes on to make it clear that such action includes action outside the United Kingdom; that references to a person or property include a person or property wherever situated; and that references to the public include the public of a country other than that of the United Kingdom.

Paragraph 3 of SI 2001 No. 3365 prohibits the making available of funds to any person who commits, attempts to commit, facilitates or participates in the commission of acts of terrorism, or to persons controlled or owned by them or acting on their behalf or at their direction. Article 4 of the order provides for the freezing of funds held by such persons. In accordance with article 2, such acts of terrorism include acts of terrorism outside the United Kingdom.

  - **Are there any regulations concerning alternative remittance systems?**

UK legislation covers all payment systems. The Money Laundering Regulations 2001 provide for the regulation of all money service operators, including bureaux de change and operators of alternative remittance systems. Under these regulations, money service operators are required to register their operation with Customs authorities. They are also required to report on their transactions and fulfil other requirements established by regulation. Customs authorities have the power to inspect their operations at any time. A copy of these regulations can be found at http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2001/20013641.htm

* The annexes are on file with the Secretariat and are available for consultation.

- **How does the financial tracking system ensure that funds received by bodies such as charities are not diverted from their stated purposes to terrorist activities?**

The Charity Commission has certain powers to undertake investigations into UK registered charities under the Charities Act 1993. Under this law the Charity Commission will consider complaints and concerns which are supported by evidence. Among those areas which may lead to complaints are:

the funds or other assets of the charity are being used in improper ways;

the charity is undertaking improper political activities.

The Charity Commission has the power during the course of its investigations to freeze the bank accounts of any registered UK charity.

- **Are natural or legal persons other than banks (e.g. attorneys, notaries and other intermediaries in general) required to report suspicious transactions to the public authorities, and if so, what are the penalties attached if such persons omit to report either wilfully or by negligence?**

Yes. Under Section 38 of the Terrorism Act 2000, as amended by section 117 of the Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001, if a person believes or suspects that a transaction is suspicious based on information that comes to his or her attention in the course of trade, profession, business or employment, he or she is obliged to report it as soon as is reasonably practicable to a constable. However, information obtained in privileged circumstances by a professional legal adviser:

from a client's representative, in connection with the provisions of legal advice by the adviser to the client;

from a person seeking legal advice from the adviser, or from the person's representative, or;

from any person, for the purpose of actual or contemplated legal proceedings is exempt.

Any person found guilty of the offence shall be liable to imprisonment of up to five years, a fine, or both.

Under a further enhancement to the disclosure provision enacted in the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001, if a person has reasonable grounds to suspect (or knows or suspects) the fund-raising, use, possession, or laundering of money related to terrorism based on information which comes to the person in the course of business in the regulated financial sector, he or she is obliged to report this as soon as is practicable to a constable.

- **Sub-paragraph 2 (a):**

- **The report outlines restrictions on the export of weapons from the UK but does not indicate how UK law regulates the sale of weapons within the UK. The CTC would be grateful for information on this.**

The main control is the Firearms Act 1968, which divides firearms into four broad categories:

Prohibited Weapons under Section 5 of the Act. This includes machine guns, most self-loading rifles, rocket-launchers, and weapons that "discharge any noxious liquid, gas or other thing". These can only be held under the authority of the Secretrary of State for Home Affairs, granted by the Home Office to those who have need to trade in or handle these weapons (e.g. defence manufacturers). Following the Dunblane shootings, most handguns were raised to this category by the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997.

Firearms described in Section 1 of the Act may be held on a firearms certificate, which is issued by the local police. This includes most hunting and target rifles, long barrelled pump-action shotguns and muzzle-loading pistols. The police must be satisfied that the applicant can be trusted to possess firearms, and that he has a "good reason" for possessing them. Target shooting and game shooting are generally considered good reasons. Firearms certificates are not issued for self-defence to residents of mainland Britain.

Shotguns described in Section 2 of the 1968 Act may be held on a shotgun certificate, which is issued by the local police. Shotguns of this kind must be long-barrelled and have a limited or no magazine. The police must be satisfied that the applicant can be trusted to have a shotgun, but the applicant does not have to prove that he has a particular good reason to possess the gun. Shotguns of this kind are commonly used for vermin control, game shooting, and for shooting at clay targets.

Low-powered air guns, that is to say guns with a muzzle energy of less than 6ft/lbs for pistols and 12 ft/lbs for other guns, are not subject to certificate control, though there are controls on their use by young people.

A person wishing to trade in firearms must be registered as a firearms dealer with his local police. The police must be satisfied that the person concerned can be trusted to deal in guns, that he has a genuine proposed business, and that the security of his premises is sufficient. A dealer must keep records of the firearms he trades in.

- **Please outline the measures, both legislative and practical, preventing entities and individuals from recruiting, collecting funds or soliciting other forms of support for terrorist activities to be carried out inside or outside the United Kingdom, including, in particular:**
  - **the carrying out, within or from the UK, of recruiting, collecting of funds and soliciting of other forms of support from other countries; and**
  - **deceptive activities such as recruitment based on a representation to the recruit that the purpose of the recruitment is one (e.g. teaching) different from the true purpose and collection of funds through front organisations.**

34 terrorist organisations are proscribed under the Terrorism Act 2000. Under the Act it is an offence for a person to:

belong to or profess to belong to a proscribed organisation;
invite support for a proscribed organisation;
dress or to wear, carry or display an article in such a way or in such circumstances as to arouse reasonable suspicion that he is a member of a proscribed organisation.
The maximum sentence for these offences in 10 years imprisonment.

The offences in the Act more generally apply to anyone planning or supporting in the UK terrorist acts anywhere in the world, whether or not the organisation to which they belong has been proscribed.

It is also an offence under the Act to recruit people in the UK in order for them to receive training abroad in the use of firearms and explosives for terrorist purposes. It is also an offence to raise funds, or provide money where it is intended or suspected that the money will be used for a terrorist purpose.

See also the reply to question 1(d), third tiret, on charities.

- **Sub-paragraph 2 (c):**

  - **The CTC would be grateful to know whether there is a conflict between the use of the Immigration Act 1971 for the removal of individuals mentioned in this sub-paragraph and the requirements of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.**

As the UK's report S/2001/1232 pointed out, the international obligations of the United Kingdom under Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights prevent deportation in certain circumstances, including in some cases where the relevant powers of the Immigration Act 1971 would otherwise be exercisable. In such cases, deportation is not carried out.

- **The report states that where removal is not a realistic possibility, the Anti-Terrorism and Security Act provides for indefinite detention of such persons in the UK. Does this mean indefinite detention in prison?**

Yes. Because of the limited nature of the derogation form Article 5 ECHR, which underpins the power to detain indefinitely, the power is only exercised when detention is a measure strictly required by the exigencies of the public emergency threatening the life of the nation.

- **Sub-paragraph 2 (e):**

  - **Please could the UK provide a list of the minimum and maximum penalties as provided for under the laws which give effect to this sub-paragraph.**

In general, apart from a few specific offences under the Terrorism Act 2000 and Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001, there are no "terrorist" offences under UK law. Terrorists are usually tried under "normal" criminal legislation. Attachment III of the UK's earlier response to the Counter-Terrorism Committee of 19 December 2001 lists the criminal offences covered by the Suppression of Terrorism Act 1978, which enabled the UK to ratify the 1977 European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism.

It is a general principle that the UK does not have minimum sentences, apart from murder, which has a mandatory minimum sentence of life. However, there are a limited number of mandatory sentences set for serious repeat offending. These include an automatic life sentence for a second serious violent or sexual offence.

With regard to the offences listed in Attachment III of the UK response of 19 December 2001, the following are examples of the maximum sentence available for those offences:

Murder – Life
Kidnapping – Life
Section 4 of the Offences Against the Person Act (OAPA) 1861 (soliciting etc to commit murder) – Life
Section 18 of the OAPA (wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm) – Life
Section 20 of the OAPA (causing grievous bodily harm) – 5 years
Section 28 of the OAPA (causing bodily harm by gunpowder) – Life
Section 29 of the OAPA (causing gunpowder to explode with intent to cause grievous bodily harm) – Life
Section 30 of the OAPA (placing gunpowder near a building with intent to cause bodily injury) – 14 years
Taking of hostages (under the Taking of Hostages Act 1982) – Life.

See also the reply to the question on sub-paragraph 3 (d) below, which includes, in the case of relevant international conventions and protocols against terrorism, a description of the relevant criminal offences in UK law and the appropriate penalties.

- **Sub-paragraph 2 (f):**

  - **Is there any legislative enactment governing mutual assistance, or is this only governed through bilateral and multilateral arrangements?**

The Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 provides the general framework for provision of mutual legal assistance, and we do not require the existence of a bilateral or multilateral agreement in order to provide assistance to another country (although we would normally expect reciprocity). The exception is for restraint and confiscation of assets, for which we do require the existence of a bilateral or multilateral agreement. The 1990 Act will shortly be amended in order to enable the UK to ratify the 2000 EU Convention on Mutual Assistance.

- **Sub-paragraph 2 (g):**

  - **Please outline the measures in place to give effect to this sub-paragraph.**

The Government informally sought clarification from the CTC's independent experts on the information required that, in their opinion, was not adequately covered in S/2001/1232. The experts explained that in the context of several European countries having legislation on personal identity cards, the lack of this in the UK could be seen as a vulnerability in the fight against terrorism, with particular regard to the movement of terrorists. The answer below therefore addresses this issue.

After the terrorist atrocities in the United States on 11 September 2001, the issue of introducing an identity card scheme was raised by many people and attracted a considerable degree of media comment. At the time the Government was not planning to introduce an identity card scheme as part of its response to the events of 11 September 2001, but the policy was being kept under review. It was considering whether a universal entitlement card, which could allow people to prove their identity more easily and provide a simple way to access a range of public services, would be beneficial. The Government also said that a scheme could help to combat illegal working and it could also reduce fraud against individuals, public services and the private sector.

The Government has made clear that the introduction of an entitlement card would be a major step and that it would not proceed without consulting widely and considering all the views expressed very carefully. It announced on 5 February 2002that it intends to publish a consultation paper by the summer. This will cover the whole issue of identity fraud and a range of possible responses in the short, medium and long-term, including the advantages and disadvantages of an entitlement card scheme – but also other measures which might be taken to improve the security of existing forms of identification issued by the Government. One of the options, which the Government has already ruled out, is making the failure to carry an entitlement card an offence.

The Government does not consider that an entitlement card scheme would have a significant effect in combating terrorism in the United Kingdom, although in the long term, a scheme might make it more difficult for terrorists to operate under false identities.

However, in the short to medium term entitlement cards would not have a significant effect in combating terrorism due to the fact that it would be many years before cards were widely held.

In addition some terrorists would be able to hold a card legitimately and there is the possibility that cards could be counterfeited by highly organised terrorists with sufficient resources.

- **Sub-paragraph 3 (a), (b) and (c):**

  - **The report sets out the machinery for the exchange of operational information within the European Union (EU) and with the UN, NATO and OSCE. Please also describe how the UK exchanges information with countries which are not members of the EU, NATO or OSCE. Is information exchanged under bilateral treaties or are other administrative arrangements used?**

The UK Central Authority (UKCA), based in the Home Office, is the designated central authority for all requests for mutual assistance in criminal (including terrorist) investigations both in and outside the UK. Requests for assistance (both in and outside) come to the Home Office and are examined and then acted upon by staff in the UKCA.

Requests going overseas from the UK are relatively simple to aciton. The request is reviewed and (if all is found to be in order) it is transmitted overseas, usually to a Ministry of Justice in the country concerned, although certain requests are sent out via the UK's Embassy or High Commission overseas.

Requests coming into the UK require an assessment as to the assistance sought, and how it can best be provided. There are a number of options, depending on the nature of the assistance required. For example, the request may be best dealt with by the police if it related to an alleged criminal offence having been committed overseas, or Her Majesty's Customs and Excise if the information requested related to an illegal drugs matter.

When evidence is obtained within the UK it is sent to the UKCA and then transmitted to the requesting authority. Evidence obtained overseas is sent to the requesting authority in the UK, also via the UKCA.

As explained in the answer above to the question under sub-paragraph 2 (f), the UK does not require the existence of a bilateral or multilateral agreement in order to provide assistance to another country (although we would normally expect reciprocity). There are however, a number of treaties (for example, with most European States, the USA, and SAR Hong Kong) which govern the Mutual Legal Assistance process between the parties. As referred to in the reply to the question on sub-paragraph 2 (f) above, The Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 is the domestic legislation that provides the framework for the work of the UK Central Authority.

- **Sub-paragraph 3 (d):**

  - **It is noted that the UK has ratified all twelve of the relevant international global conventions and protocols relating to terrorism. As the practice of enforcing these ratified conventions differs among countries, please explain how these conventions and protocols are enforced (through separate enactments or by incorporation into relevant existing laws)?**

Treaties do not automatically form part of UK law, and, therefore, before ratifying any treaty the UK must consider whether any amendment of domestic law is required to give effect to the obligations that it contains. This will involve an examination of whether the existing common law or statutory provisions are sufficient to implement the treaty in question, and, if not, legislation will be required to make the necessary amendments. The way in which the main provisions of the twelve international Counter-Terrorism Conventions and the European Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism are implemented, is set out in Annex 1 of this report.[1]

- **Sub-paragraph 3 (e):**

  - **Please could the UK provide a copy of the pieces of model legislation mentioned in the report and a progress report on their implementation in the overseas territories.**

The UK intends to have the Order made for all its Overseas Territories (except Bermuda, Cayman and Gibraltar, which are legislating locally, but may use the order as a model for their own legislation) in July. The UK shall send a copy of the Order to the CTC once it has been made.

  - **Please state whether the crimes referred to in the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism are all extraditable offences in bilateral extradition treaties.**

See the answer above to the question on sub-paragraph 3 (d).

[1] However it is important to note that the UK is made of three different law districts, namely (i) England and Wales, (ii) Scotland, and (iii) Northern Ireland. Whilst primary legislation that has been introduced specifically to implement treaty obligations will usually apply in all three law districts, aspects of substantive and procedural criminal law differ considerably in each. For the sake of brevity, this reply sets out the position in England and Wales. Implementation of the Conventions differs in a number of respects in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Furthermore, legislation needs to be enacted in order to extend the conventions to the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories. The first five conventions detailed below have been extended to all of these territories; the process of extending the remaining seven is on-going.

- **Sub-paragraph 3 (f):**

  - **What is the remedy for a third country whose terrorists are by mistake or otherwise admitted into the UK?**

Third countries can request extradition. Extradition to and from the United Kingdom is governed by the Extradition Act 1989 ("the 1989 Act"). The UK has extradition arrangements with its designated Commonwealth partners (schedule 3 of the Act), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Republic of Ireland and foreign states that have been designated by an order in council (schedule 4 of the Act). The UK can make special extradition arrangements for requests from any state under section 15.

Requests to the United Kingdom can be made in two ways: a provisional arrest warrant, which is generally made through police channels as a matter of urgency, or a full order request, which is submitted through the diplomatic channel in advance of the arrest. These should consist of the particulars of the person whose return is requested, particulars of the offence of which he is accused or was convicted, a warrant or a duly authenticated copy of a warrant for his arrest issued in the requesting state, or for a provisional arrest, details of such a warrant, in the case of a person unlawfully at large after conviction of an offence, a certificate or a duly authenticated copy of a certificate of the conviction and the sentence, or for provisional arrest, details of the conviction.

Where a request is made for the provisional arrest of a fugitive, the fugitive will be arrested before an authority or an order to proceed (ATP/OTP) is signed. He is brought before the District Judge, who sets an initial period for the receipt of the formal extradition request and supporting documents, and the signing of the ATP/OTP by the Secretary of State. If the request is not received within this period, or if the requisite supporting documents are not supplied, the fugitive is released immediately. Where a full order request is made through the diplomatic channel, the ATP/OTP is signed before the fugitive is arrested by the Secretary of State.

At the resulting committal hearing, the request is considered. The District Judge must be satisfied that the documents have been correctly authenticated and certified, that the ATP/OTP relates to an extradition crime and that none of the prohibitions on return applies. If so, he is required to commit the fugitive to await the Secretary of State's decision as to whether to order the fugitive's return. In both Commonwealth and bilateral treaty cases, prima facie evidence is required at the committal hearing.

Following committal, the fugitive has 15 days to appeal against the District Judge's decision to commit him by applying to the Divisional Court for a writ of habeas corpus. If this is dismissed, the fugitive can appeal to the House of Lords, as can the requesting state.

Once all the stages before the courts have been completed, the case returns to the Secretary of State to make a decision within two months on whether to order surrender. If the Secretary of State is satisfied that there are no statutory bars to the fugitive's extradition, and there appears to be no other reason why extradition would be wrong, unjust or oppressive he may sign an order for the fugitive's return. The fugitive may apply for permission to seek judicial review of the Secretary of State's decision. If an application is made, the fugitive will not be surrendered while the judicial review proceedings are pending.

If evidence becomes available after the grant of refugee status, which indicates that the person concerned is a terrorist and had committed acts of terrorism prior to entry to the UK, action to cancel refugee status would be considered under the exclusion provisions in Article 1F of the 1951 Refugee Convention. If the exclusion criteria in Article 1F were satisfied, refugee status would be withdrawn prior to the person's being returned to stand trial.

Article 1F could be applied similarly if, in the course of considering an asylum application, evidence was available to indicate that the person had engaged in terrorist activity abroad. In either case removal to the extraditing country would be subject to there being no infringement of the individual's rights under the ECHR, in particular Article 3, and to all appeal rights in the United Kingdom being exhausted.

- **Sub-paragraph 3 (g):**

  - **Will the legislation on extradition to be introduced early in 2002 remove all geographical restrictions to the waiver of the political offence exception?**

The current position, under section 24 of the Extradition Act 1989, is that no offence to which section 1 of the Suppression of Terrorism Act 1978 applies shall be regarded as an offence of a political character. As amended by section 64 of the Terrorism Act 2000, the Extradition Act 1989 provides that, in relation to requests from certain countries, particular offences cannot be regarded as offences to which the political offence exception can apply. The offences cover a wide variety of serious crimes such as murder, manslaughter, rape, kidnapping, arson, various offences against the person, abduction, taking of hostages, explosives offences, firearms offences, offences against property, offences in relation to ships, aircraft, oil rigs and the channel tunnel together with attempts and conspiracy to commit such offences. These provisions apply world wide.

The new extradition legislation, which has been delayed slightly beyond the original timetable, will be consistent with this position.

- **Paragraph 4**

  - **The CTC would be grateful to know if the UK government has addressed any of the concerns in paragraph 4, as far as it concerns money laundering and narcotics.**

Drugs

The United Kingdom is at the forefront of international efforts to combat transnational organised crime and illicit drugs. Since September 11 we have enhanced our efforts to break the linkage between international terrorism and organised crime.

In particular the UK has established a Fund to provide technical assistance to countries that wish to combat Drugs and Crime. The budget of this Fund has increased by 37% in the last year. We have also significantly increased our financial contribution to the UNDCP in Vienna (the UK has consistently been amongst the five largest donors).

The UK has also taken a particularly active role in combating the drugs industry in Afghanistan which has in recent years been closely linked to terrorism. We have provided support to the Interim Administration for its crop eradication programme. We are also working with the Afghan government to

- create effective drugs law enforcement
- build the right institutions within Afghanistan to tackle addiction and provide treatment and demand reduction
- ensure that the peoples of districts previously dependent on opium cultivation are offered alternative livelihoods, not just in agriculture but also in other sectors.

The UK is a party to the three main drugs Conventions (1961,1971 and 1988) and lobbies for the widest possible adherence to these instruments which set the framework for international co-operation in this field. The UK was also one of the first countries to ratify the UN Convention against Transnational Crime (UNTOC) which provides for what is potentially a world wide framework for co-operation against organised crime. We have also organised a number of seminars to encourage its ratification by others.

Money Laundering

The United Kingdom is a leading member of the Financial Action Task Force and fully supports its 40 Recommendations on money laundering and 8 Special Recommendations on terrorist financing. Apart from a wide-ranging bilateral programme on technical assistance, the UK supports a number of multilateral initiatives.

- **The Caribbean Anti-money Laundering Programme (CALP) in partnership with the US and EU**
- **The ASEM anti-money laundering initiative in South East Asia in partnership with the EU and the Netherlands**
- **Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) in partnership with the US, Canada, France, Netherlands, Spain and Mexico**
- **The Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the US**
- **The Council of Europe's PC-R-EV Committee**
- **The Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) in partnership with Canada, US, IMF, UNDP, Caribbean Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank**
- **The Financial Sector Reform and Strengthening Initiative (FIRST) in partnership with Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, the World Bank and the IMF**

Additionally, the UK has, on various occasions, provided technical experts to speak in international fora to sensitise the international community on the challenges in the battle against money laundering and terrorist financing.

- **Other matters:**

  - **Could the United Kingdom please provide an organisational chart of its administrative machinery, such as police, immigration control, customs, taxation and financial supervision authorities, established to give practical effect to the laws regulations and other documents that are seen as contributing to compliance with the Resolution.**

The UK does not have an organisational chart as such, but hopes the following information is useful.

UK policy on international terrorism is co-ordinated by an inter-departmental committee of officials (TIDO(O)), which is chaired by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. The Cabinet Office, the Home Office, the Ministry of Defence, HM Treasury, HM Customs and Excise, the Department for Trade and Industry, the Police Service and the Intelligence Agencies are all represented on the committee, which reports to Ministers as necessary. Co-ordination of policy towards the financial aspects of terrorism is carried out by a different official committee (TIDO(TF)), which is chaired by the Home Office, and whose membership includes: HM Treasury, the Financial Services Authority, and the Bank of England. The committee reports regularly to Ministers. In addition to these standing arrangements, in response to a particular threat or emergency, and subject to a decision by Ministers, the Cabinet Office would establish a permanently-manned crisis management centre (COBR) to co-ordinate the UK's response. The expertise of government departments, the intelligence agencies, the police, the military, scientific and other specialist advice, local authorities and the emergency services would be drawn on as appropriate.

The Home Secretary has ministerial responsibility for the police and Immigration Service, and counter-terrorist policy within the UK. The Home Office is therefore the focal point for the response to the terrorist threat, both through legislative measures and counter-terrorist contingency planning. As part of this response, the Home Office is responsible for a set of classified contingency plans that cover the full range of terrorist scenarios. These plans are well prepared, regularly tested, reviewed and updated in the light of changing domestic and international circumstances.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office has responsibility for UK government policy on counter-terrorism issues in international and regional fora and for the mainstreaming of counter-terrorism co-operation and assistance in UK bilateral relations with other states.

HM Treasury is responsible in the UK for implementing financial measures against terrorists. SI 3365(2001) empowers the Chancellor of the Exchequer to freeze the assets of individuals and organisations where there are reasonable grounds to suspect they are involved in terrorist activities.

The assets freeze list is published on the Bank of England's website. The Bank maintains a circulation list of over 600 banks and trade associations to draw their attention to any changes in sanctions information published on the Bank's website.

The Department of Trade and Industry has responsibility for all aspects relating to export control matters including issues such as legislation and licensing policy.

HM Customs and Excise has the lead responsibility for detecting prohibited and restricted goods at import and export, including those goods that may be used by terrorists. Customs Officers are also Examining Officers under Anti-Terrorist legislation under which they provide information and intelligence to the lead counter terrorism agencies described above and have power to seize terrorist-linked cash anywhere in the UK.